UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/573,232	03/23/2006	Philippe G. Nantermet	21546YP	5429
210 MERCK AND	7590 05/14/200 CO., INC	EXAMINER		
PO BOX 2000			WARD, PAUL V	
RAHWAY, NJ 07065-0907			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
		1624		
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			05/14/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	10/573,232	NANTERMET ET AL.				
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit				
	PAUL V. WARD	1624				
The MAILING DATE of this communication app Period for Reply	ears on the cover sheet with the c	orrespondence address	-			
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).						
Status						
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on						
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	- action is non-final.					
3) Since this application is in condition for allowan	ice except for formal matters, pro	secution as to the merits	is is			
closed in accordance with the practice under E	x parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 45	3 O.G. 213.				
Disposition of Claims						
4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-9,12-19,21 and 23</u> is/are pending in	the application.					
4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdraw						
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.						
6) Claim(s) is/are rejected.						
7) Claim(s) is/are objected to.						
8) Claim(s) <u>1-9, 12-19, 21 &amp; 23</u> are subject to rest	riction and/or election requireme	nt.				
Application Papers						
9) The specification is objected to by the Examine						
10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) acce		Evaminor				
Applicant may not request that any objection to the c						
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correcti			1(d)			
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Ex						
	animer. Note the attached office	Action of format 10-102.	•			
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119						
<ul> <li>12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).</li> <li>a) All b) Some * c) None of:</li> <li>1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.</li> <li>2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.</li> <li>3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</li> </ul>						
Attachment(s)	<b></b> □	(77.0 110)				
Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)     Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	4) ∐ Interview Summary Paper No(s)/Mail Da					
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) Notice of Informal P					
Paper No(s)/Mail Date	6)					

## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions, which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I The compounds, compositions and method of treatment according

to claims 1-9,12-19, 21 and 23, wherein Y of Formula I is C.

Group II The compounds, compositions and method of treatment according

to claims 1-9,12-19, 21 and 23, wherein Y of Formula I is N.

The inventions listed as Groups I-II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features. For example, Group I is drawn to a compound. Group II is a different compound with respect to the compound of Group I. Therefore, there is no special technical feature for the compounds or different fields of application of the compounds. Additionally, there is no unity of invention. The special technical feature has been identified as the phenyl ring structure of instant formula I. The products claimed contain a pheynl ring, which does not define a contribution over the prior art. The substituents on the structure vary extensively and when taken as a whole result in vastly different compounds. Accordingly, unity of invention is considered to be lacking and restriction of the invention in accordance with the rules of unity of invention is considered to be proper.

Application/Control Number: 10/573,232 Page 3

Art Unit: 1624

There is no special technical feature, which unites the groups. But even if there were a special technical feature there must be unity of invention also. Under 37 CFR 1.475:

- (a) An international and a national stage application shall relate to one invention only or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept ("requirement of unity of invention"). Where a group of inventions is claimed in an application, the requirement of unity of invention shall be fulfilled only when there is a technical relationship among those inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features. The expression "special technical features" shall mean those technical features that define a contribution which each of the claimed inventions, considered as a whole, makes over the prior art.
- (b) An international or a national stage application containing claims to different categories of invention will be considered to have unity of invention if the claims are drawn only to one of the following combinations of categories:
- (1) A product and a process specially adapted for the manufacture of said product; or
- (2) A product and a process of use of said product; or
- (3) A product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and a use of the said product; or
- (4) A process and an apparatus or means specifically designed for carrying out the said process; or
- (5) A product, a process specially adapted for the manufacture of the said product, and an apparatus or means specifically designed for carrying out the said process.

Art Unit: 1624

The above groups I and II as considered do not meet the requirement of unity of invention as given above in (1) - (5).

A telephone call was made to John Todaro on May 6, 2008 to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement, but did not result in an election being made.

Applicant is advised that <u>the reply to this requirement to be complete must</u> <u>include an election of the invention</u> to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PAUL V WARD whose telephone number is 571-272-2909. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8 am to 4 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James O Wilson can be reached on 571-272-0661. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/James O. Wilson/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1624 Application/Control Number: 10/573,232

Page 5

Art Unit: 1624

Application Number

Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination		
10/573,232	NANTERMET ET AL.		
Examiner	Art Unit		
PALIL V WARD	1624		